

Remarks

Claims 1-20 and 28-60 are pending, of which claims 28-38 are indicated as directed toward patentable subject matter. No claims are amended, canceled, or added. Applicant requests allowance of the pending claims in view of the following remarks.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of claims 1-20 and rejected claims 39-60 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,926,811 to Miller *et al.* ("Miller") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,154,212 to Rennison *et al.* ("Rennison"). Applicant traverses these rejections, because the references relied upon by the Examiner, either alone or in combination with one another, do not teach or suggest the claimed invention for at least the reasons set forth in Applicant's Reply to Office Action filed April 12, 2004 ("Applicant's Reply").

In the Examiner's Response to Applicant's Arguments, the Examiner asserts that:

It is important to note that the assertion that applicant is relied upon is not described in either independent and dependent claims. There is no mentioned of building a context including said occurrence (**from one of said plurality of descendant groups**) and said related data (**from said at least one predecessor group**) in the claims. Applicant is advised to amend the claims by incorporating the abovementioned limitations.

See Office Action mailed May 20, 2004 at paragraph 2.

Applicant disagrees. The language that the Examiner asserts is missing from the claims is in fact present via antecedence. Claim 1, in pertinent part recites:

locating **an occurrence** of the search term **in one of said plurality of descendant groups**;

traversing said network from said occurrence in said one of said plurality of descendant groups to **related data in said at least one predecessor group** using said relationships among the data; and

building a context including **said occurrence** and **said related data** thereby retrieving data from the database corresponding to the search term

The language in parenthesis used in Applicant's Reply, when demonstrating that "building a context said occurrence and said related data" is not taught or suggested by the references relied upon by the Examiner was provided for the convenience of the Examiner.

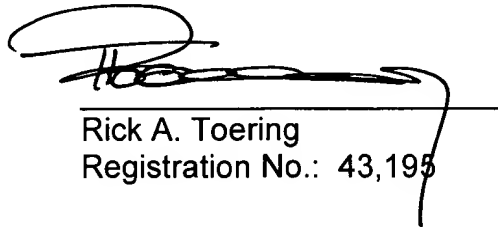
In light of this, Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider Applicant's arguments filed on April 12, 2004, and pass the pending claims to allowance. In the event that the Examiner is not persuaded by these arguments, Applicant requests the benefit of an Examiner Interview prior to the Examiner issuing a new office action.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at the number provided.

Dated: September 20, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick A. Toering", is written over a horizontal line.

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